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# Saigon preparing massacre drive

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Even as President Nixon was speaking to the country last night of advances towards a cease-fire in Vietnam, the Hanoi press warned that Saigon was unleashing a terror drive against the National Liberation Front and partisans of peace in South Vietnam.

The President's scheduled speech, broadcast live over TV and radio, came after a day of reports out of France and White House hints that a cease fire had been initiated in Paris and an agreement awaited only formal signature.

The Hanoi newspaper Nhan Dan ("The People") demanded "checking the hands of the war maniacs who are stepping up the war and terror in South Vietnam," in an editorial yesterday described as "much more harsh than usual" by U.S. news sources in Saigon. The newspaper said that Saigon puppet troops and police, under cover of heavy air attacks by U.S. planes, were launching terrorist offensives against many areas long controlled by the South Vietnamese patriots.

The U.S. military command in Saigon admitted that U.S. planes flew their heaviest air strikes in the past five months against South Vietnamese targets: 450 fighter-bomber strikes yesterday compared to last Friday's 400 and Thursday's 335. Not included in this total were 27 three-plane B-52 missions, because in theory the B-52s are not under the U.S. command in Saigon but directly under the Strategic Air Command (SAC).

Nixon's speech followed a meeting with Henry Kissinger, his special adviser, who returned from private talks in Paris yesterday with Le Duc Tho, special adviser to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam delegation.

The Nixon announcement came almost four years to the day after the Paris talks began on Jan. 25, 1969 and 72 hours after a giant antiwar protest in the Capital of 150,000 persons. U.S. news sources said that a cease-fire was indeed in the works, and that it was ex-

pected to "closely parallel" the Oct. 20 agreement between the DRV and U.S., which the U.S. has been refusing to sign up to now.

The Oct. 20 agreement called for a cease-fire to take effect 24 hours after the nine-point end-war agreement was signed. All U.S. troops would be withdrawn within 60 days and all U.S. prisoners of war returned within the same time-period.

Within South Vietnam, and free from any foreign interference, representatives of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the Saigon regime, and neutralist forces would establish a National Concord administration to supervise free and democratic elections in which the South Vietnamese people would determine their own future.

If this arrangement is to work however, it is clear that the U.S. and the Saigon puppet regime cannot use it to carry out the kind of "white terror" the world has so often witnessed in the past in South Vietnam and elsewhere. Yet the step-up in U.S. bombings to support Saigon's widespread attacks against liberated areas seem to be the same sort of "white terror" as was seen in Finland, Hungary, Bavaria and other places in the early 1920s.

The Paris newspaper, Le Figaro, said that a new "civil war" would probably break out in South Vietnam, and L'Aurore, another Paris newspaper, said that the sharp escalation in ground and air operations "casts the most serious doubt" on any peace agreement.

According to reports in the U.S. news services and press, Saigon puppet President Nguyen Van Thieu intends to proclaim a "curfew" immediately after any cease fire, which will forbid any South

Vietnamese to leave his home. Those caught out in the open, under the prevailing martial law of the Saigon regime can be shot down for any or no reason.

The Saigon newspapers on Monday said that Thieu's planned drastic controls to go into effect after a cease-fire include orders to the puppet troops and police to "shoot anyone stirring up trouble among the population or inciting to rebellion and support of the Communists."

Saigon government and U.S. sources said that Thieu has ordered his 16,564 Rural Development officers — actually an operation of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency — to "administer" villages and hamlets in all areas under Saigon police or military control after the cease-fire.

The Soviet news agency TASS reported from Washington last Friday that it had learned that the CIA's notorious "Operation Phoenix" to assassinate South Vietnamese patriotic leaders would be continued after any cease-fire.

TASS also said a new terror plan, called "F-6," provided for savage reprisals against opponents of the Thieu regime, and it noted that in 1972 alone, the Saigon police murdered 26,000 opponents of Thieu.